

IN THE CLAIMS

This is a complete and current listing of the claims, marked with status identifiers in parentheses. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A feeding system (12; 16) for feeding animals on a farm, characterized in wherein:
 - an analyzer device (13; 17) provided on the farm for measuring in real time or near real time the amount of at least one constituent of solid feed to be fed to said animals;
 - a control device provided for controlling said analyzer device to measure the amount of the constituent of the solid feed repeatedly and at least once a day;
 - a feeding device (14; 18) provided for feeding said animals; and
 - a control device provided for controlling said feeding device to feed said animals repeatedly and at each instant depending on the last one of said repeatedly performed measurements.
2. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein a control device is provided for controlling said analyzer device to measure the amount of said constituent of said solid feed immediately prior to the feeding of said animals.
3. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein a control device is provided for controlling said analyzer device to measure the amount of said constituent of said solid feed a plurality of times per day, and preferably at least three times per day.
4. (Currently Amended) The system of any of claims 1-3 wherein said solid feed is ensiled feed.
5. (Currently Amended) The system of any of claims 1-4 wherein the amount of said

constituent includes any of protein content, dry content, and fiber content, particularly neutral detergent fiber (NDF) content.

6. (Currently Amended) The system of ~~any of~~ claims 1-5 wherein a control device is provided for controlling said analyzer device to measure the amounts of a plurality of constituents of said solid feed, and a control device is provided for controlling said feeding device to feed said animals depending on the measurements of the amounts of the constituents of said solid feed.

7. (Currently Amended) The system of ~~any of~~ claims 1-6 wherein a control device is provided for controlling said device to perform said feeding depending on an average value of said repeatedly measured amounts of said constituent.

8. (Currently Amended) The system of ~~any of~~ claims 1-7 wherein said analyzer device is a spectroscopic device for quantitative chemical analysis.

9. (Currently Amended) The system of ~~any of~~ claims 1-8 wherein said analyzer device is a near infrared (NIR) instrument.

10. (Currently Amended) The system of ~~any of~~ claims 1-9 further comprising

- a computer-based processing and control device (~~11, 15~~) provided for the management of said animals including controlling of the feeding of said animals, wherein
 - said processing and control device
 - comprises a database including updated information regarding feed consumption by said animals;
 - is connected to receive said respective measured amounts of said constituent of said solid feed;
 - is provided to calculate an amount of solid feed to be fed to said animals based on the

performed measurements and said updated information comprised in said database; and

- is connected to indicate to said feeding device said calculated amount of solid feed to be fed to said animals.

11. (Currently Amended) The system of ~~any of~~ claims 1-10 wherein a control device is provided for controlling said feeding device to feed said animals with mixed solid feed having a balanced composition depending on the performed measurements.

12. (Currently Amended) The system of ~~any of~~ claims 1-10 wherein a control device is provided for controlling said feeding device to feed said animals with solid feed comprising ensilage and concentrate and/or additives depending on the performed measurements.

13. (Currently Amended) The system of ~~any of~~ claims 1-12 wherein said animals are grouped in different groups, and wherein a control device is provided for controlling said feed device to feed different groups of animals with total mixed rations (TMR) of solid feed independently and depending on the performed measurements.

14. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 13 wherein said animals are grouped in different groups depending on body condition, and, provided that the animals are milking animals, depending on milk production, days in lactation, or number of lactations.

15. (Currently Amended) The system of ~~any of~~ claims 1-12 wherein said animals have supply of partial mixed rations (PMR) of solid feed, including ensilage and concentrate, and wherein a control device is provided for controlling said feed device to feed each of said animals with additional concentrate feed individually and depending on the performed measurements.

16. (Currently Amended) The system of ~~any of~~ claims 1-12 wherein said animals are grouped in different groups, and wherein a control device is provided for controlling said feed device to (i) feed different groups of animals with roughage or ensilage depending on the

performed measurements, and (ii) feed said animals with concentrate or additives individually and depending on the performed measurements.

17. (Currently Amended) The system of ~~any of~~ claims 1-12 wherein a control device is provided for controlling said feed device to feed different individuals of said animals with solid feed individually depending on the performed measurements.

18. (Currently Amended) The system of ~~any of~~ claims 1-17 wherein said feeding device is a vehicle (14)-filled with said solid feed, and said on-farm analyzer device (13) is provided at said vehicle for measuring the amount of said constituent of said solid feed.

19. (Currently Amended) The system of ~~any of~~ claims 1-17 wherein said feeding device is a feed wagon (18), preferably an in-door feed wagon mounted on a rail in a ceiling, for automatic feeding.

20. (Currently Amended) The system of ~~any of~~ claims 1-19 further comprising a device (19), preferably a weighing machine or an optical device with image processing capabilities, provided for establishing in connection with said feeding, the actual feed consumption by said animals, wherein a control device is provided for controlling said feeding device to feed said animals depending on the established actual feed consumption by said animals.

21. (Currently Amended) The system of ~~any of~~ claims 1-20 wherein said animals are milking animals, and wherein said arrangement further comprising a device (20) provided for measuring a quality or a quantity of milk from said milking animals, and a control device is provided for controlling said feeding device to feed said milking animals depending on the measured quality or quantity of milk from said milking animals.

22. (Currently Amended) The system of ~~any of~~ claims 1-21 further comprising a device (20) provided for measuring a quality of manure from said animals, wherein a control device is

provided for controlling said feeding device to feed said animals depending on the measured quality of manure from said animals.

23. (Currently Amended) The system of ~~any of~~ claims 1-22 wherein a control device is provided for controlling said analyzer device to measure the amount of the constituent of the solid feed repeatedly and at least once a day automatically.

24. (Currently Amended) The system of ~~any of~~ claims 1-22 wherein a control device is provided for controlling said feeding device to feed said animals repeatedly and at each instant depending on the last one of said repeatedly performed measurements automatically.

25. (Currently Amended) A method for feeding animals on a farm, ~~e h a r a c t e r i z e d~~
by w h e r e i n the steps of:

- measuring the amount of at least one constituent of solid feed to be fed to said animals in real time or near real time, repeatedly, and at least once a day by an analyzer device (13; 17) provided on the farm; and

- feeding said animals repetitively and at each instant depending on the last one of said repeatedly performed measurements by a feeding device (14; 18).

26. (Currently Amended) Use of a feeding system comprising an analyzer device (13; 17) and a feeding device (14; 18) for feeding animals on a farm, said analyzer device being used on the farm for measuring in real time or near real time, repeatedly, and at least once a day the amount of at least one constituent of solid feed to be fed to said animals, and said feeding device being used for feeding said animals repeatedly and at each instant depending on the last one of said repeatedly performed measurements.